



# U.S. Embassy Lusaka

## CONSULAR COMMUNICATOR



**Inaugural Wardens Conference**

**JULY-SEPTEMBER 2010**

This past April, wardens representing Americans living throughout Zambia gathered in Lusaka for the U.S. Embassy's Inaugural Zambia Wardens Conference.

Embassy officials briefed wardens on USG activities that promote peace, health and development in partnership with the Zambian people.

Wardens also received important safety and health information and updates on improvements to American Citizen Services such as the SMS-based messaging system, agreements with the Zambian government to improve consular notification and access, and the success of the appointment system.

Since wardens are a key link between the Embassy and U.S. citizen community, we shared practical information on voter registration and the warden's role in a crisis situation.

Zambia Immigration Officials spoke about recent changes to immigration policy and we have included the updated information in our [country specific information sheet](#) for travelers to Zambia.

We thank all of our wardens for their voluntary service on behalf of Americans in Zambia.

### Hail and Farewell

This summer we bid farewell to Chargé d'Affaires Michael Koplovsky, who is heading to Washington.

We also greet Ambassador-nominee Mark C. Storella and our new Deputy Chief of Mission Stephen Schwartz.

Ambassador-nominee Storella is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service currently serving as Senior Coordinator for Iraqi Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons at Embassy Baghdad. He has served as Deputy Permanent Representative and DCM in Geneva and DCM

in Phnom Penh. Prior assignments include Rome, Paris, Bangkok and Washington.

Stephen Schwartz comes to us from Washington and has served in Port Louis, Pretoria, Havana, Bujumbura, Addis Ababa and Washington.

Look for opportunities to meet Amb.-nominee Storella and DCM Schwartz in town hall gatherings as they tour the country in the months after their arrivals.



Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Pamela Tremont (far left) leading the Embassy/CDC/USAID/PEPFAR Panel.

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Chargé d'Affaires Michael Koplovsky addresses wardens at the Wardens reception.

### Spotlight on Human Trafficking

On June 14, the U.S. Department of State released the 2010 Trafficking in Persons Report, which summarizes the human trafficking situation in each country and evaluates each government's commitment to anti-trafficking.

For the second year in a row, Zambia is ranked "Tier 2" for

anti-trafficking efforts. The Zambia report as well as a report for each country, including the United States, is available [online](http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010) (<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010>).

In Zambia, the CHAMP 900 talkline provides free, 24-hour counseling on trafficking as well as HIV/AIDS.

The new visa application form DS 160 for Non immigrant Visa became mandatory June 1, 2010. Below are some helpful tips to assist visa applicants in having a successful experience using the new form.

**The confirmation page has an "X" in the box where the photo should be. What does that mean?**

Due to bandwidth constraints in Zambia, the DS-160 electronic application does not allow applicants to upload a photo electronically. You will need to submit one printed photograph meeting requirements, along with the online DS-160 confirmation page. See the print photo format found in the Nonimmigrant Photograph Requirements.

**Should I save my application before I submit it?**

YES! You should save your application locally (to either your hard drive or a CD) to avoid losing work should your session time out before you submit the application. Full instructions are on [our website](#).

**Do I bring my entire application with me to the interview, or do I just bring the confirmation page?**

Your confirmation page is all that is needed to retrieve your application data.

**I am traveling with my family or as part of a group. Can I create a family or group application?**

Yes. On the "Thank You" page you will see an option to create a family or group application.

## **Be Alert: International Financial Scams**

The State Department receives daily calls about international scams involving Internet dating, inheritance, work permits, overpayment, and money-laundering. Many scams are initiated through the Internet; victims range in age from 18 to 81 and come from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

While such confidence schemes have long existed, advent of the Internet has greatly increased their prevalence. Individual Americans have lost considerable money on these scams, ranging from a few hundred dollars to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

All types of advance-fee scams have one point in common – the

targeted person is led to believe that he or she has a chance to attain something of very great personal value (financial reward, a romantic relationship, etc.) in return for a small upfront monetary outlay. As a general rule, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

If you feel you have been a victim of an Internet scam, please consult the publications below for help and send all reports of Internet fraud directly to the [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#). If the scam originated through a particular website, notify also the administrators of that website. When it becomes apparent you are the victim of a scam, it is best to end all communication with the scam artist, rather than attempt resolution. It is extremely rare for victims

to recover lost money. If you feel threatened in any way, you should report your situation to the local police and the Embassy.

Scams evolve constantly, and we cannot include all scam variations here. We do hope, however, that these brochures will help alert you to the indicators of some common scams and actions you should take:

[Internet Dating and Romance Scams](#)

[Work Permits](#)

[Lottery Scams](#)

[Real Estate and Overpayment Fraud](#)

[Resources for Victims of International Financial Scams](#)

[Help for American Victims of Crime Overseas](#)

[Inheritances and Money Laundering](#)

[Hacked E-mail Scams, Real Estate Scams, and Other Variations](#)

You can contact us at the Embassy at [ACSLusaka@state.gov](mailto:ACSLusaka@state.gov) for a copy of any of these brochures.





## Updating the Warden System

There is an ongoing project to overhaul the Warden System and incorporate cell phone numbers into the new SMS System. Many of you have already been contacted by your wardens to get updated information and to make introductions to ensure you know your warden. If you haven't been contacted and you don't know who your warden is please email us at [acslusaka@state.gov](mailto:acslusaka@state.gov). Remember, please encourage American visitors to register with the Embassy at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. Registration helps Americans stay informed, stay connected and stay safe.

## Welcome Krystal Beckham

The Consular Section has a new member of staff for the summer. Her name is Krystal Beckham and she is interning with the section. Krystal originally hails from Sacramento, California but is currently working on her Master's degree in International Relations, with an emphasis in International Politics, at the University of California, San Diego. In her free time, Krystal enjoys traveling, reading, and playing at the beach with her three dogs. Krystal has already been in touch with some of you and will be working on a variety of projects, including updating Americans' contact information to ensure efficiency of our warden notification system.

## Sneak Peeks of the Warden Conference



## Visa Fee Changes

New visa fees went into effect June 4, 2010. The fees now better reflect the cost of adjudicating different categories of visas. Visa application fees are payable in U.S. Dollar or Zambian Kwacha cash, using the Embassy exchange rate, at the Embassy's consular cashier on the day of interview. Fees were last changed in January 2008. The new schedule of fees is available below.

### U.S. Embassy Schedule of Fees - Visas

Service	Fee
Non-Immigrant (NIV)	
Tourist/Business (B1/2) and all categories not listed below	\$140
Temporary worker (H), Intra-company transfer (L), Outstanding ability (O), Performers (P), Cultural exchange (Q), and Religious (R )	\$150
Treaty Traders/Investors (E)	\$390
Immigrant (IV)	
Fiancée/fiancé	\$350
Relative-based	\$330
Employment-based	\$720
Diversity Visa - application fee	\$305
Diversity Visa - processing fee	\$440
Affidavit of Support (for use by US sponsor in IV cases)	\$88
Security surcharge - all IV cases	\$74



## Voting Overseas



Show your July 4th patriotism! June 28 – July 7, 2010 is “Overseas Citizens Voters Week.” This is the time to make sure you are registered to vote in the 2010 Federal elections! Additionally, the following states will hold Primary Elections in the coming the months:

**June 22, 2010:** Utah

**July 20, 2010:** Georgia

**July 27, 2010:** Oklahoma

**August 3, 2010:** Kansas, Michigan, Missouri

**August 5, 2010:** Tennessee

**August 10, 2010:** Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota

**August 17, 2010:** Washington, Wyoming

**August 24, 2010:** Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Vermont

**August 28, 2010:** Louisiana (1st Party Congressional)

For updates on upcoming elections and other voting news, see our [Voting webpage](http://zambia.usembassy.gov/usvoting.html) (<http://zambia.usembassy.gov/usvoting.html>).

### **Voting Question of the Month: I have completed my ballot, but I don't really trust the international mail to get it there in time. What do I do?**

The Department of State's venerable internal mail system is known as the diplomatic pouch. It's not a service you can use for your Christmas cards but you *can* use it to send in your voter registration cards and your completed ballots. Just come by the Embassy Consular section (or have a friend come by) and drop it off with us. We'll send it on as long as it is properly addressed (we can help you find the correct state address). No postage necessary!

Important distinction: If you are expecting a blank ballot from your state officials, that ballot must be sent from your state directly to your PO Box in Zambia. However, many states are moving to electronic voting. More on that in the next Consular Communicator.



### **Federal Benefits**

Do you have questions about receiving federal benefits like Social Security checks?

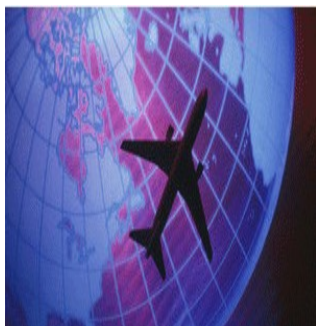
What about getting a Social Security number? We work closely with the Federal Benefits Unit at our Embassy in London, which serves as a regional hub. They have a new site to answer your questions:

[http://www.usembassy.org.uk/cons\\_new/acs/fbu/index.html](http://www.usembassy.org.uk/cons_new/acs/fbu/index.html)

NEW AMERICAN CITIZEN SERVICES EMAIL

The consular section has a new email address dedicated to American Citizen Services. You can reach us on [acslusaka@state.gov](mailto:acslusaka@state.gov)





**On June 25,  
the U.S.  
Embassy  
released a  
warden  
message  
regarding the  
measles  
outbreak in  
Zambia. Read  
here for more  
information on  
protecting  
yourself and  
your family.**

## MEASLES

### Signs and Symptoms of Measles (from [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))

The symptoms of measles generally begin about 7-14 days after a person is infected, and include:

- Blotchy rash
- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes (conjunctivitis)
- Feeling run down, achy (malaise)
- Tiny white spots with bluish-white centers found inside the mouth (Koplik's spots)

A typical case of measles begins with mild to moderate fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, and sore throat. Two or three days after symptoms begin, tiny white spots (Koplik's spots) may appear inside the mouth.

Three to five days after the start of symptoms, a red or reddish-brown rash appears. The rash usually begins on a person's face at the hairline and spreads downward to the neck, trunk, arms, legs, and feet. When the rash appears, a person's fever may spike to more than 104 degrees Fahrenheit.

After a few days, the fever subsides and the rash fades.

### Risk for Travelers

- All persons who do not have evidence of measles immunity are at risk for contracting measles during international travel.
- Acceptable presumptive evidence of immunity to measles for international travelers includes:
  - For infants 6–11 months of age, documented administration of one dose of live measles-containing vaccine and, for persons  $\geq 12$  months of age, two doses of MMR vaccine at least 28 days apart, on or after the first birthday
  - Laboratory evidence of immunity
  - Birth before 1957
  - Documented physician-diagnosed measles

**(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)**

**Preventive Measures for Travelers (measles feature continuation from Page 5)****Vaccine**

- Measles vaccine contains live, attenuated measles virus. It is available as a monovalent formulation and in combination formulations, such as measles–rubella (MR), measles–mumps–rubella (MMR), and measles–mumps–rubella–varicella (MMRV).
- Ensure that all travelers who do not have evidence of measles immunity (see Risk for Travelers earlier in this section) are up to date on measles vaccination prior to departure.
- Infants 6–11 months of age should have at least one dose of measles-containing vaccine.<sup>1</sup>
- Preschool children  $\geq 12$  months of age should have two doses of MMR vaccine separated by at least 28 days.
- School-age children should have two doses of MMR.
- Adults born in or after 1957 should have two doses of measles-containing vaccine.
- If administered at  $\geq 12$  months of age, one dose of measles-containing vaccine or MMR is 95% effective in preventing measles disease and two doses are 99% effective. One dose of measles-containing vaccine or MMR is approximately 85% effective if administered at 9 months of age.
- For persons  $\geq 12$  months of age, combined MMR vaccine is recommended whenever one or more of the individual components is indicated to provide optimal protection against mumps and rubella. For infants  $< 12$  months of age, measles vaccine alone is recommended if it is available; otherwise MMR should be used.
- MMR vaccine, if administered within 72 hours of initial measles exposure, may provide some protection. If the exposure does not result in infection, the vaccine should induce protection against subsequent measles virus infection.

Immune globulin (IG) can be used to prevent or mitigate measles in a susceptible person when administered within 6 days of exposure. However, any immunity conferred is temporary unless modified or typical measles occurs, and the person should receive measles-containing vaccine 5–6 months after IG administration.

**Visit the below sites and consult your healthcare professional for detailed information on measles symptoms, prevention and vaccine contraindications.**

CDC Yellow Book page on measles: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/chapter-2/measles.aspx>

CDC Measles Fact Sheet for Children: <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/bam-measles-508.pdf>

CDC Measles Vaccination information: <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/vaccination.html>